

Docket No: HOFMANN-5  
Appl. No: 10/540,988

### REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted preliminary to the issuance of an Office Action in the present application.

Applicant has amended claims 1-19 to remove any multiple dependency of the claims and to present claims in proper form and language and to better encompass the full scope and breadth of the invention, notwithstanding applicant's belief that the claims would have been allowable as originally filed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee of \$400.00 for submitting two independent claims in excess of three to Deposit Account No: 06-0502.

In addition, applicant has amended the specification to present it with proper headings and to delete a reference to a particular claim number.

When the Examiner takes this application up for action, s/he is requested to take the foregoing into account.

Respectfully submitted,

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**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW  
CHANGES MADE**

Before the title, delete all particulars.

Before paragraph [0001], add the heading --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--.

Before paragraph [0007], add the heading --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Amend paragraph [0008] as follows:

[0008] -- This object is achieved by ~~the subject matter of the independent claims. Advantageous refinements are specified in the subclaims~~ a sewer pipe having partial pipe shells and connecting means connecting the partial pipe shells firmly to one another.--.

Before paragraph [0034], add the heading --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING--.

Before paragraph [0040], add the heading --DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--.

Page 13, after the heading "PATENT CLAIMS" and before the first claim add --What is claimed is:--.

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**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES  
MADE, AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS**

1. (Currently amended) A sewer pipe, comprising having partial pipe shells (1, 11, 12, 21, 22, 31, 32), and connecting means connecting the partial pipe shells (1, 11, 12, 21, 22, 31, 32) firmly to one another.
2. (Currently amended) The sewer pipe as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least two of the partial pipe shells (11, 12, 21, 22, 31, 32) are connected to each other via a hinge (13, 23, 33).
3. (Currently amended) The sewer pipe as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least two of the partial pipe shells (1, 11, 12, 21, 22) are connected via a latching element (5, 14, 24) which is provided on the one of the two partial pipe shell (1, 12, 21) shells and which ~~latches for latching~~ into a recesses (2, 16, 25) recess in the other one of the two partial pipe shell (11, 22) shells.
4. (Currently amended) The sewer pipe as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the latching element is a latching pin (5) ~~of the one partial pipe shell (1)~~ engages in the recess in the form of a latching hole (2) in the other one of the partial pipe shell (1) shells.
5. (Currently amended) The sewer pipe as claimed in claim 3 ~~or 4~~, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising a hinge for pivotably connecting the latching element (14) ~~is pivotably connected to a~~ one of the partial pipe shell (12) ~~by a hinge (14)~~.

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6. (Currently amended) The sewer pipe as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein one of the partial pipe shells has a positioning pins (18) of a partial pipe shell (12) engage pin for engagement in a positioning recesses (19) recess in a further one of the partial pipe shell (11) shells.~~
7. (Currently amended) The sewer pipe as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, ~~characterized by wherein at least one of the partial pipe shells has an inner surface formed with a recess (6, 36) provided at the an end thereof in the inner surface of at least one partial pipe shell (1, 31, 32).~~
8. (Currently amended) The sewer pipe as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, ~~characterized by wherein at least one of the partial pipe shells has an outer surface formed with an elevation (7, 35) provided at the an end thereof on the outer surface of at least one partial pipe shell (1, 31, 32).~~
9. (Currently amended) The sewer pipe as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, ~~characterized by further comprising~~ sealing elements arranged between the partial pipe shells.
10. (Currently amended) The sewer pipe as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that it is~~ wherein the partial pipe shells are made at least partly ~~produced~~ from plastic.
11. (Currently amended) The sewer pipe as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 10, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the plastic is reinforced with glass fibers.
12. (Currently amended) A laying method for a sewer pipe ~~as claimed in one of claims 1 to 11~~, ~~characterized in that the~~ comprising the steps of connecting

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an end of a first sewer pipe ~~is connected at the end~~ to a boring device; and ~~is drawn~~ drawing the sewer pipe into the ground by means of the boring device.

13. (Currently amended) The laying method as claimed in claim 12, ~~characterized in that, wherein~~ after a the first sewer pipe has been drawn in, a second said sewer pipe is connected to ~~the~~ a free end of the first sewer pipe and is drawn into the ground by means of the boring device and the first sewer pipe.
14. (Currently amended) The laying method as claimed in claim 12 ~~or 13~~, ~~characterized in that, in order to be connected to the boring device or, respectively, a wherein the sewer pipe already introduced, the sewer pipe to be introduced~~ is assembled from partial pipe shells (~~1, 11, 12, 21, 22, 31, 32~~).
15. (Currently amended) A laying method for a sewer pipe ~~as claimed in one laying of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that~~ comprising the steps of connecting the an end of a sewer pipe is connected to a ramming device at ~~the end~~ and ~~is pushed~~ pushing the sewer pipe into the ground by the ramming device.
16. (Currently amended) A method for producing a sewer pipe string with at least one sewer pipe ~~as claimed in one of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that~~ comprising the steps of the partial pipe shells (1, 11, 12, 21, 22, 31, 32) forming a first sewer pipe from partial pipe shells; are put in place placing the first sewer pipe in surrounding relationship to so as to embrace the one end of a second sewer pipe; and are connected connecting the first and second sewer pipe firmly to each other by means of the connecting means.

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17. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 16, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ at least two of the partial pipe shells ~~(11, 12, 21, 22, 31, 32)~~ of the first sewer pipe are connected by a hinge ~~(13, 23, 33)~~ are put in place, and further comprising the step of folding the partial pipe shells together so as to embrace the end of the second sewer pipe and are folded together.
18. (Currently amended) A system comprising partial pipe shells, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the partial pipe shells ~~(1, 11, 12, 21, 22, 31, 32)~~ can be placed on are constructed for juxtaposed placement to one another, based on the a pipe circumference, to form a pipe; and can be connected connecting means for firmly connecting the partial pipe shells to one another by connecting means.
19. (Currently amended) ~~A sewer pipe string having at least one sewer pipe as claimed in one of claims 1 to 11 connected to a further sewer pipe~~ The laying method as claimed in claim 13, and further comprising the step of arranging a seal arranged between the first and second sewer pipes.